

Severe Storms

Are You Ready?



LET'S WORK TOGETHER

Prolonged periods of heavier than normal rain can cause:

- Flooding
- Mudslides
- Sink holes
- Closed roads
- Prolonged power outages
- Water and sewer service interruptions
- Dangerous driving conditions

The City of Carlsbad has already taken steps to keep our community safe. To be truly prepared, we need residents to get ready too.

What's Inside

- How To Make a Plan
- Emergency Kit Checklist
- Safe Driving Tips
- Sandbag Information
- How To Stay Informed
- Know Your Risk

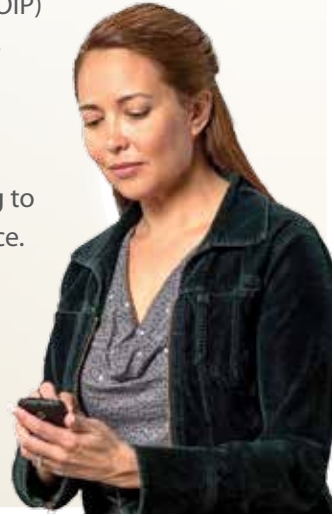
San Diego County Emergency App



The County of San Diego has a free app with emergency preparedness tips and a Carlsbad-specific section where important information will be available in an emergency. Be sure to download it today by visiting www.readysandiego.org.

Register for Reverse 9-1-1

Register your cell phone, Voice over Internet Protocol (VOIP) phone and email address with AlertSanDiego, the county's reverse 9-1-1 notification system. Visit www.readysandiego.org to sign up for this free service. This does not apply to land-line numbers, which are automatically registered.



Get Ready!



- Make an emergency kit.
- Stock up on sandbags and plastic sheeting from your local home improvement store. These supplies run out quickly during a storm, so buy them in advance, if possible.
- Clear debris from roof drains, gutters, downspouts and yard drains.
- Trim trees, especially those with large over-hanging branches.
- Get familiar with more than one safe route to higher ground from your home and workplace.
- Read up on your insurance policy. Do you have flood insurance? Do you have enough coverage?
- Visit www.readysandiego.org to register your mobile phone and email for emergency alerts, and download the San Diego County Emergency App.
- Designate a relative or friend as an out-of-area contact where family members can check in and relay information if local communication systems are overloaded.
- Learn alternate ways out of your neighborhood, in case the usual way becomes blocked or flooded.
- If you have a pet, make sure you have a safe carrier ready.
- Keep your car's gas tank at least half full.



Make a Plan

- ☐ Designate a relative or friend as an out-of-area contact with whom family members can relay information. Long distance phone systems often work even if local communication systems are overloaded.
- ☐ If you have children, involve them in the planning – let them be part of the process.
- ☐ Review and update your emergency supply kit and “grab and go” list periodically.
- ☐ Learn alternate ways out of your neighborhood, in case the usual way becomes blocked.
- ☐ Plan how you’ll transport your pet – get a pet carrier if necessary.



Prepare an Emergency Supply Kit

During an emergency, you might not have time to shop or search for supplies, so have an emergency supply kit assembled. Your kit should include items you may need at home or if you have to evacuate. Store your kit in easy-to-carry containers such as backpacks or plastic crates. Keep a second emergency kit with essentials in your vehicle.

- ☐ A three-day water supply (1 gallon per person per day is recommended)
- ☐ A three-day food supply that won't spoil, and a way to open it
- ☐ One change of clothing and shoes per person
- ☐ One blanket or sleeping bag per person
- ☐ A first aid kit that includes family prescriptions
- ☐ Emergency tools
- ☐ Extra set of car keys
- ☐ Flashlight
- ☐ Extra batteries
- ☐ Battery-powered radio
- ☐ Special items for infants, elderly or disabled family members
- ☐ Pet transport carrier and leash
- ☐ Pet food for three days
- ☐ Work gloves
- ☐ Face mask (rated “Mk 95”)



Grab and Go List

Everyone has their own “important stuff” – things you don’t want to forget in an emergency. Make a list now of the things important to you, and be ready to gather them in a moment’s notice.

- ☐ Prescription medications
- ☐ Eyeglasses
- ☐ Important documents (birth certificates, passports, insurance papers and inventory, personal phone and address books, tax, school and vaccination records, photos, etc.)



- ☐ Jewelry
- ☐ Child’s favorite toy, book or game
- ☐ External drive or computer backup
- ☐ Cash (in case ATMs are out of service)
- ☐ Cell phone and charger
- ☐ Laptop and charger



Stay Safe *During the Storm*

- Never try to cross a flowing stream. Strong currents can knock you off your feet with as little as six inches of water.
- Drive slowly and avoid flooded areas. Swiftly flowing water as shallow as 1 foot can easily sweep a car from the road.
- Obey road barricades and signs; Never “sightsee” in areas with flooding or mudslides.
- If advised by local authorities to evacuate, move immediately to a safe area.
- Be alert for power lines that may have been toppled by wind or trees or broken gas lines. Report them immediately to 9-1-1.
- Use texting instead of voice calling if possible to avoid overloading local networks.

Strong currents can knock you off your feet with as little as **six inches of water.**

Safe Drinking Water

Mudslides have the potential to sever or contaminate water pipes, and prolonged power outages could affect water treatment facilities.

When To Boil Water

Store a minimum of three gallons of emergency water per person, and plan on using one gallon per person each day. If purified water is not available during an emergency, water should be boiled for one full minute. Let the water completely cool before use. Periodically rotate water and food supplies per manufacturer’s instructions.



Protect the Environment

During storms, rain water can transport pollutants such as dirt, trash and pet waste directly into our creeks, lagoons and ocean. Do your part to keep our waters clean:

- Properly store household hazardous materials like paint and cleaning supplies and protect them from rain.
- Always pick up after your pets.
- Apply fertilizers, pesticides and insecticides sparingly and follow manufacturer’s instructions. Avoid applying before any forecasted rain.
- Properly dispose of trash, and keep lids closed.

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Wet Weather *Safe Driving Tips*

Traffic accidents are one of the biggest dangers of heavy rain, and the one easiest to avoid:

- **Slow down.** Posted speed limits are for normal driving conditions. Reduce speeds as needed when roads are wet.
- **Leave room.** Leave extra room between your car and the cars ahead of you.
- **Avoid hydroplaning.** As little as 1/12 of an inch water at a speed of more than 35 miles per hour can cause hydroplaning. If you start to hydroplane, let off the accelerator slowly and steer straight until you regain control.
- **Don't cross.** Avoid crossing areas where flood water is present. Even a small amount traveling at high speed can cause drivers to lose control.
- **Check your tires.** Make sure your tires have enough tread and are properly inflated.
- **Don't cruise.** Cruise control can cause your car to accelerate when hydroplaning and reduces driver attentiveness.
- **Keep** a portable emergency supply kit in your car.



It's the Law

Be aware of safety laws in effect during wet weather.

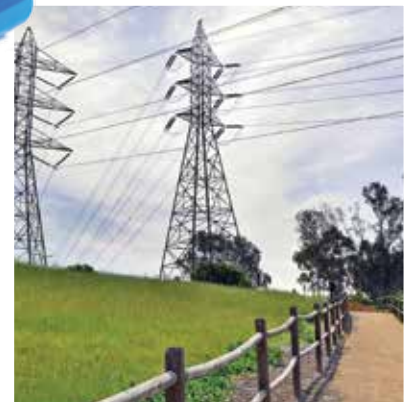
- Drivers must use windshield wipers when it's raining, and they must be in good working condition.
- Headlights must be turned on.
- When a traffic signal is not working, treat the intersection as a four-way stop.



Power Outage Safety

Did you know that high winds and storms are some of the main causes of power outages? Is your home prepared?

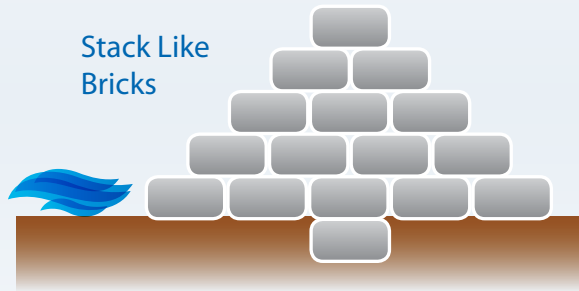
- If you see downed or broken power lines, stay clear, and do not touch them. Immediately call 9-1-1.
- For outage information, check the SDG&E website, www.sdge.com/outage, or call 800-411-7343.
- Have flashlights, battery powered radios, telephones that do not depend on electricity and batteries on hand.
- Keep devices fully charged, and consider getting a back up charger.
- Use flashlight rather than candle for light.
- Unplug or turn off TVs, computers and game systems.
- Leave one light on so you know when power is restored.
- Minimize the opening of refrigerator and freezer doors. You want to keep in the cold air and prevent food spoilage.



How To Use Sandbags

If your property is prone to flooding, stock up on sandbags. They are available online and at local home improvement stores. The city can provide a limited number of sandbags for private use in an emergency, but it's safer to get your own supply now.

- Create a small dam or wall using sand bags to block or divert floodwater.
- As a general rule, you will need about 10 to 25 filled bags at a minimum for each area.
- Sandbags should be stacked similar to a brick wall, using a staggered pattern.
- Build your wall at least two bags high.



Stack Like Bricks

For after-hours flooding or related emergencies, call 760-931-2197.

For more tips and information, visit

www.carlsbadca.gov (search "El Niño").

If your property is prone to flooding, stock up on sandbags. They are available online and at local home improvement stores.



Report Flooding

To report flooding call **760-931-2197**. This line is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

For emergencies threatening public safety, property or the environment, immediately call 9-1-1.

Stay or Go?

Depending on the emergency and your situation, you could be asked to evacuate to a safe location or "shelter in place," meaning stay where you are. If you shelter in place, have your emergency kit available.

Shelter in Place

- Bring your family and pets inside.
- Lock doors, close windows, air vents and fireplace dampers.
- Stay away from windows.
- Get out your emergency supply kit.
- Check on food and water supplies. Based on the expected length of the emergency, figure out how to make them last for the duration.
- Never use portable generators or barbecue grills indoors.
- Monitor local media and the city's website for updates and instructions.



Bring your family and pets inside.

Special Needs?

If you or someone you know has access and functional needs, please review San Diego County's Disaster Assistance Plan at www.readysandiego.org/resources/caregivers-disaster-plan.pdf



Personal Support Network

During a disaster most of us are willing to help out those in need. However, we often are limited by our lack of understanding of how best to help one another.

- Identify at least three people in each major location where you regularly spend time.
- Provide written emergency contact information with key phone numbers of relatives and medical professionals.
- Include relevant medical information, such as the types of medications, doses and locations where items can be found.
- Attach laminated labels to equipment with operating instructions.
- Give copies of keys to get into your home in case of an emergency.
- Work out a system for contacting one another during a crisis.
- Select a way to communicate to let the members of the network know that you are safe.

Work out a system for contacting one another during a crisis.

Stay Informed

The City of Carlsbad posts safety information on its website and social media. Make sure you bookmark our site and follow these channels:



cityofcarlsbad



carlsbadcagov



www.carlsbadcagov



www.sdcountyemergency.com

Other Resources

City of Carlsbad.....	www.carlsbadca.gov (search "El Niño")
San Diego County.....	www.sdcountyemergency.com
Emergency radio stations.....	KOGO AM 600 and KLSD AM 1360
Flood Insurance.....	www.floodsmart.gov/floodsmart
Freeway traffic update.....	http://quickmap.dot.ca.gov
National Weather Service.....	www.wrh.noaa.gov/sgx
Power Outages.....	www.sdge.com/outage , 800-411-7343
Red Cross.....	www.redcross.org/preparedness
Regional Resources.....	www.readysandiego.org
Report flooding, other hazards....	760-931-2197
En Español.....	www.readysandiego.org/es-us





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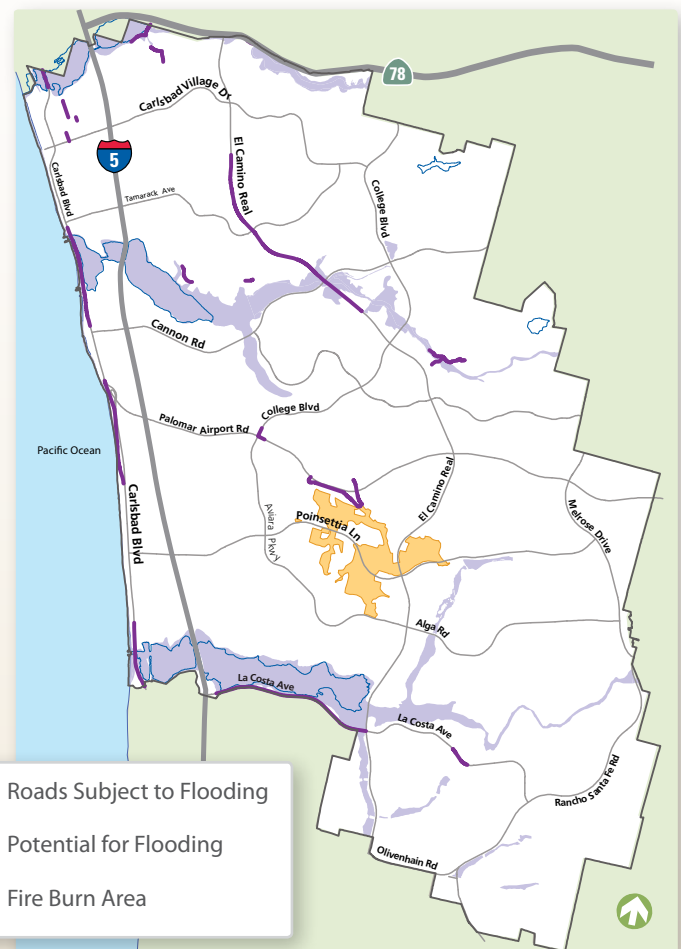
Know Your Risk

Do you know your risk from flooding and other storm-related hazards?

- Is your property near an area prone to flooding?
- Do you regularly use one of the major streets vulnerable to flooding and storm-related damage?
- Are there possible erosion problems on or near your property?
- Do you live near the hillsides that burned during the Poinsettia Fire?



If you answered yes to any of these questions, you could be at a higher than normal risk of storm-related hazards. Check the city website www.carlsbadca.gov (search "El Niño") for a link to a FEMA flood map where you can look up your address and to see a larger version of the map to the right.



Information on this map is based on best efforts utilizing available information. Before using this information, please refer to the city website www.carlsbadca.gov (search "El Niño") to view the full size map and the city's disclaimer of liability.